

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend claims 1, 4–6, 9–11, 14, 16–17, 19, 22–24 and 27 as follows.

Please cancel claims 3, 18 and 25–26 without prejudice.

Please add new claims 28–29.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for providing a selection of properties for an electronic document associated with an application program having a user interface, comprising the steps of:

determining a context for the electronic document displayed on the user interface;

determining a status of a property for the electronic document; and
based upon the context of the electronic document and the status of the property,

creating a customized palette for the user interface so that the palette comprises a control only for an available property for the electronic document and excludes controls for unavailable properties for the electronic document;
and

displaying the palette in conjunction with the electronic document on the user interface including sizing the palette and resizing the displayed electronic document to accommodate the palette so that the palette and the electronic document are simultaneously viewable such that said palette and an activated associated content of the palette do not obscure viewing of said electronic document, wherein the displayed palette excludes displayed controls for the unavailable properties for the electronic document.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
 - determining a change in the status of the property or the context of the electronic document; and
 - based upon the change of the property or the change in context of the electronic document,
 - modifying the palette to reflect the change in the property or the change in the context of the electronic document, wherein the modified palette includes a control only for an available property for the electronic document and excludes controls for unavailable properties for the electronic document; and
 - replacing the palette with the modified palette so that the modified palette is displayed in conjunction with the electronic document on the user interface, wherein the displayed modified palette excludes displayed controls for the unavailable properties for the electronic document.

3. (Canceled).

4. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 2, further comprising the step of:

sizing the modified palette and resizing the displayed electronic document to accommodate the modified palette so that the modified palette and the electronic document ~~can be~~ are simultaneously viewed viewable.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

coordinating the palette with a predefined interface associated with the application program so that the palette provides control features in a same order as corresponding control features in the predefined interface and the predefined interface provide consistent control features; and

displaying the predefined interface in conjunction with the palette and the electronic document.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 2, further comprising the steps of:

coordinating the modified palette with a predefined interface associated with the application program so that the modified palette provides control features in a same order as corresponding control features in the predefined interface and the predefined interface provide consistent control features; and

displaying the predefined interface in conjunction with the modified palette and the electronic document.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the context of the electronic document consists of at least one of the following: textual content, formatting content, or graphical content.

8. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the property consists of one of the following: a formatting command, an application program command, or an electronic document characteristic.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the user interface palette comprises a graphical user interface for an application program.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the user interface palette comprises a floating palette.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the user interface palette comprises a property browser palette window.

12. (Original) The method of Claim 5, wherein the predefined interface comprises a toolbar.

13. (Original) The method of Claim 6, wherein the predefined interface comprises a toolbar.

14. (Currently Amended) A computer system for providing a selection of formatting properties for an electronic document associated with an application program having a user interface comprising:

a memory for storing a property browser program module; and

a processing unit functionally coupled to the memory for executing computer-executable instructions operable for:

determining formatting properties for an electronic document associated with the application program, wherein a formatting property has an associated control;

determining a context for the electronic document;

creating a customized palette based upon the formatting properties and the context of the electronic document, wherein the customized palette includes controls only for formatting properties that are available to a user and excludes controls for formatting properties that are not available to a user; and

coordinating the palette with a toolbar associated with the application program so that the palette provides control features in a same order as corresponding control features in the toolbar; and

sending the palette to a user interface associated with the application program for display adjacent to a viewing content area occupied by the electronic document and for display with the toolbar, such that the palette and an activated associated content of the palette do not obscure any portion of the viewing content area occupied by the electronic document regardless of whether the electronic document occupies all portions of the viewing content area, wherein the displayed palette excludes displayed controls for the unavailable formatting properties for the electronic document.

15. (Previously Presented) The computer system of Claim 14, wherein the processing unit is further operable for:

determining a change in the status of a formatting property or the context of the electronic document; and

based upon the change of the formatting property or the context of the electronic document,

modifying the palette to reflect the change in the formatting property or the change in the context of the electronic document, wherein the modified palette includes controls only for formatting properties that are available to a user and excludes controls for formatting properties that are not available to a user; and

replacing the palette with the modified palette so that the modified palette is displayed in conjunction with the electronic document on the user interface, wherein the displayed modified palette excludes displayed controls for the unavailable formatting properties for the electronic document.

16. (Currently Amended) The computer system of Claim 14, wherein the processing unit is further operable for:

sizing the palette and resizing the electronic document to accommodate the palette so that the palette and the electronic document can be simultaneously viewed.

17. (Currently Amended) The computer system of Claim 15, wherein the processing unit is further operable for:

sizing the modified palette and resizing the electronic document to accommodate the modified palette so that the modified palette and the electronic document can be simultaneously viewed.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) The computer system of Claim 15, wherein the processing unit is further operable for:

coordinating the modified palette with a ~~predefined interface~~ the toolbar so that the modified palette provides control features in a same order as corresponding control features in the toolbar and the ~~predefined interface~~ provide consistent control features; and

displaying the ~~predefined interface~~ toolbar in conjunction with the modified palette and the electronic document.

20. (Original) The computer system of Claim 14, wherein the context of the electronic document consists of at least one of the following: textual content, formatting content, or graphical content.

21. (Previously Presented) The computer system of Claim 14, wherein a formatting property consists of one of the following: a formatting command, an application program command, or an electronic document characteristic.

22. (Currently Amended) The computer system of Claim 14 +8, wherein the ~~user interface palette~~ comprises a graphical user interface for an application program.

23. (Currently Amended) The computer system of Claim 14 +8, wherein the ~~user interface palette~~ comprises a floating palette.

24. (Currently Amended) The computer system of Claim 14 +8, wherein the ~~user interface palette~~ comprises a property browser palette window.

25–26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently Amended) A computer system for providing a selection of formatting properties for an electronic document associated with an application program having a user interface comprising:

a memory for storing a property browser program module; and

a processing unit functionally coupled to the memory, for executing computer-executable instructions operable for:

determining formatting properties for an electronic document displayed on the user interface associated with the application program, wherein a formatting property has an associated control;

determining a context for the electronic document;

creating a customized palette based upon the formatting properties and the context of the electronic document, wherein the customized palette includes controls only for formatting properties that are available to a user and excludes controls for formatting properties that are not available to a user;

sizing the palette and resizing the displayed electronic document to accommodate the palette so that the palette and the electronic document can be simultaneously viewed;

coordinating the palette with a toolbar associated with the application program so that the palette provides control features in a same order as corresponding control features in the toolbar;

sending the palette to a user interface associated with the application program, wherein the displayed palette at the user interface excludes displayed controls for the unavailable formatting properties for the electronic document;

determining a change in the status of the formatting property or the context of the electronic document; and

based upon the change of the formatting property or the context of the electronic document,

modifying the palette to reflect the change in the formatting property or the change in the context of the electronic document, wherein the modified palette includes controls only for formatting properties that are available to a user and excludes controls for formatting properties that are not available to a user;

sizing the modified palette and resizing the displayed electronic document to accommodate the modified palette so that the modified palette and the electronic document can be simultaneously viewed; and

coordinating the modified palette with the toolbar so that the modified palette provides control features in a same order as corresponding control features in the toolbar; and

replacing the palette with the modified palette so that the modified palette is displayed adjacent to a viewing content area occupied by the electronic document on the user interface, said modified palette being displayed such that the modified palette and an activated associated content of the modified palette do not obscure any portion of the viewing content area occupied by said electronic document regardless of whether the electronic document occupies all portions of the viewing content area, wherein the displayed modified palette excludes displayed controls for the unavailable formatting properties for the electronic document.

28. (New) The method of Claim 1 wherein displaying the palette in conjunction with the electronic document further comprises:

resizing another electronic document displayed on the user interface so that the palette, the electronic document, and the another electronic document are simultaneously viewable.

29. (New) The computer system of Claim 16, wherein the processing unit is further operable for:

resizing another electronic document displayed on the user interface so that the customized palette, the electronic document, and the another electronic document can be simultaneously viewed.